

CEFALEXIN

- Dose for uncomplicated UTI treatment 500mg BD (3 days for females, 7 days for males).
- Dose for catheter-associated UTI treatment: 500mg TDS (up to 1g QDS) for 7 days.
- Not to be used if history of anaphylaxis with penicillin.

CLARITHROMYCIN

- Check for drug interactions – several significant [drug interactions](#) (statins/ warfarin/ DOACs/ antidepressants/ antipsychotics and other QT prolongers and many more).
- ‘Red’ (Reserved) antibiotic: alternatives such as amoxicillin or doxycycline are generally preferred for empiric treatment of respiratory tract infections.

CO-AMOXICLAV

- ‘Red’ (Reserved) antibiotic: second line agent for empiric treatment of respiratory tract infection or if targeted treatment of known pathogen.
- Not recommended for empiric treatment for UTIs due to higher antimicrobial resistance rates compared to nitrofurantoin / cefalexin.
- Beware of different liquid preparations: **To obtain 625mg dose in liquid form, use Augmentin Paediatric® Suspension where 20 mls = 625mg (500mg amoxicillin/125mg clavulanic acid).** Augmentin Duo® Suspension contains 400/57mg amoxicillin/clavulanic acid in 5mls. This formulation does not provide the recommended dosage for adults of amoxicillin/clavulanic acid.

DOXYCYCLINE

- Note doxycycline dispersible tablets (unlicensed in Ireland) are available and reimbursable under hardship scheme in community pharmacy for those with swallowing difficulties.
- Advise to take with a glass of water and sit upright for 30 minutes after taking. Take with food or milk if gastritis is an issue.
- Risk of photosensitivity. Advise use of sunscreen/sunblock.
- Absorption of doxycycline significantly impaired (50-100% reduction) by antacids, iron/calcium/magnesium/zinc-containing products (e.g. Calcichew®, Galfer®). Can result in treatment failure, separate administration by 2-3hrs.

FLUCLOXACILLIN OR PHENOXYMETHYLPENICILLIN

- Each agent should be dosed four times a day for optimum efficacy for treatment of infection.
- Best taken on an empty stomach for maximum absorption.
- Not usually required in combination (overlap of cover), flucloxacillin alone often first line for skin and soft tissue infections.

NITROFURANTOIN

Uncomplicated UTI Treatment

- Check preparation:
 - Dose 100mg BD should be MacroBID® (**prolonged release**) capsules
 - Dose 50mg QDS should be **normal release** preparation (e.g. MacroDANTIN® capsules)
- Can take with food to prevent nausea.
- Contraindicated if CrCl/eGFR <30ml/min.
- Duration: females 3 days, male 7 days.
- Not recommended for catheter-associated UTI/complicated UTIs.

UTI Prophylaxis

- Contraindicated if CrCl /eGFR <45ml/min).
- Max recommended duration 6 months for UTI prophylaxis.
- [Deprescribing UTI prophylaxis](#) information available on www.antibioticprescribing.ie

